Remarks

The above amendment is made to more clearly define and claim the present invention. With respect to the Yamada et al and Hanaki et al references cited in the (final rejection) Office Action of October 29, 2004, the references do not teach or suggest the selection of Applicants' particular claimed combination of a mobile alkali material comprising sodium, potassium, cesium, rubidium, or lithium, and an early transition metal oxide alkali metal barrier. With respect to the alkali material, the references generically disclose that any alkali or alkaline earth may be used, and the working examples are limited to barium. With respect to the early transition metal oxide alkali metal barrier, the references disclose certain metal oxides such as ceria as one choice among many (including materials that are not transition metal oxides). Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching or disclosure in the reference directed towards Applicants' particular claimed combination out of the myriad other combinations of materials possible under the disclosure of the references. With respect to the JP 09-057099, that reference does not disclose or suggest an early transition metal oxide alkali metal barrier.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and they request early action toward that end.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-0831 maintained by Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul L. Marshall

Registration Number 31,178

Date:

May 2, 2005

Address:

Delphi Technologies, Inc.

Legal Staff - Intellectual Property

MC: 480-410-420 5825 Delphi Drive Troy, Michigan 48098

Telephone: (24)

(248) 813-1240